

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed December 15, 2006 has been carefully reviewed. Reconsideration of this application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested. The application as filed contained claims 1-94. Claims 1-3, 9-20, 26-40, 46-60, and 66-94 have been cancelled. The claims presented for examination are claims 4-8, 21-25, 41-45, and 61-65.

Allowable Subject Matter

In numbered paragraph 5 on page 4, of the Office Action mailed December 15, 2006, claims 4-8, 21-25, 41-45, and 61-65 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

It is Applicants intention to address the issues related to the "objection to claims 4-8, 21-25, 41-45, and 61-65 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims" in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 4-8

Allowable claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 1 and there were no intervening claims.

Amended allowable claim 4 is now an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of its parent claim 1. Applicants believe that amended claim 4 is now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claims 5, 6, 7, and 8 depend from amended claim 4. Allowable claims 5, 6, 7, and 8 have been amended to provide antecedent basis for steps enumerated in the claims. Applicants believe that allowable claims 5, 6, 7, and 8 are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 21-25

Allowable claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 18 and there were no intervening claims. Amended allowable claim 21 is now an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of its parent claim 18. Applicants believe that amended claim 21 is now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claims 22, 23, 24, and 25 depend from amended claim 21. Allowable claims 22, 23, 24, and 25 have been amended to provide antecedent basis for steps enumerated in the claims. Applicants believe that allowable claims 22, 23, 24, and 25 are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 41-45

Allowable claim 41 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 38 and there were no intervening claims. Amended allowable claim 41 is now an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of its parent claim 38. Applicants believe that amended claim 41 is now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claims 42, 43, 44, and 45 depend from amended claim 41. Allowable claims 42, 43, 44, and 45 have been amended to provide antecedent basis for elements enumerated in the claims. Applicants believe that allowable claims 42, 43, 44, and 45 are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 61-65

Allowable claim 61 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 58 and there were no intervening claims. Amended allowable claim 61 is now an independent claim that includes all of the limitations of its parent claim 58. Applicants believe that amended claim 61 is now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claims 62, 63, 64, and 65 depend from amended claim 61. Allowable claims 62, 63, 64, and 65 have been amended to provide antecedent basis for elements enumerated in the claims. Applicants believe that allowable claims 62, 63, 64, and 65 are also in condition for allowance.

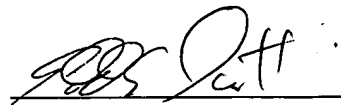
Application is in Condition for Allowance

Allowable claims 4-8, 21-25, 41-45, and 61-65 have been amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. All of the other claims have been cancelled. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

SUMMARY

The undersigned respectfully submits that, in view of the foregoing amendments and the foregoing remarks, the rejections of the claims raised in the Office Action dated December 15, 2006 have been fully addressed and overcome, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, that the claims be allowed, and that this case be passed to issue. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (925) 424-6897.

Respectfully submitted,



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